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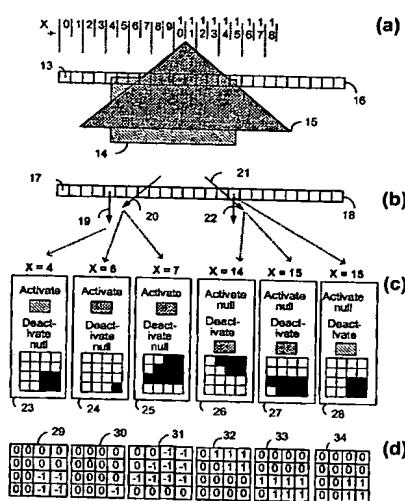
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*[Continued on next page]*

(54) Title: A METHOD FOR TRACKING DEPTHS IN A SCANLINE BASED RASTER IMAGE PROCESSOR



development relates to rendering a scan line of a graphic object image in a scan line renderer for a span of pixels lying between two x-order consecutive edges intersecting the scan line. For the span of pixels, this development maintains a subset of depths present in the rendering, the subset being those depths that are present on the span and being maintained in depth order (590) and subject to removal of depths where the corresponding depth is no longer active. In another development a compositing stack (6101-6107) of which a relationship between graphical objects contributing to the layers does not change. Rendering is operable over a run of two or more pixels within (6110, 6112, 6114), with each group being separated by a layer having variable transparency (6111, 6113). For a top one of the groups, layers having constant color in the run are reduced to a single equivalent color (6115, 6116, 6117) having an associated accumulated contribution. Many other developments are disclosed.

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